

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) An isolated DNA molecule comprising in sequence the following operably linked DNA fragments:

- (I) a plant-expressible promoter;
- (II) a DNA region, which when transcribed yields a poly-(ADP-ribose)-glycohydrolase (ParG) inhibitory RNA molecule, said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule comprising a sense nucleotide sequence of at least [[20]] 40 consecutive nucleotides of a coding region of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3 and said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule further comprising an antisense nucleotide sequence of at least [[20]] 40 consecutive nucleotides of said coding region of the complement of a coding region of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or of the complement of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3, wherein said sense and antisense nucleotide sequence are capable of forming a double stranded RNA region comprising said at least [[20]] 40 consecutive nucleotides; and
- (III) a 3'end region involved in transcription termination and polyadenylation,
wherein introduction of the DNA molecule into a plant results in a plant tolerant to high light stress.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The DNA molecule according to claim 9, wherein said DNA region comprises a nucleotide sequence of at least 21 to 100 50 or 100 consecutive nucleotides.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) A plant cell from an *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or tobacco plant comprising the DNA molecule of any one of claims 9 or 10 wherein said DNA molecule is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) An *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or tobacco plant comprising the plant cells of claim 11.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) A process for producing an *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or tobacco plant tolerant to high light stress, comprising the steps of crossing a plant of claim 12 with another plant of same species to obtain progeny plants comprising said DNA molecule, wherein said DNA molecule is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule and identifying a plant tolerant to high light stress.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) ~~Seeds~~ A seed and propagating material of the plant according to claim 12, wherein said seed and propagating material comprises the DNA molecule, and wherein said DNA molecule is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) A plant resistant to high light stress obtained by the process of claim 16.

Claim 16 (**Currently Amended**) A method of producing an *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or tobacco plant tolerant to high light stress conditions, comprising the steps of

- (a) providing plant cells from an *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or a tobacco plant with a chimeric gene to create transgenic plant cells, said chimeric gene comprising in sequence the following operably linked DNA fragments:
 - (i) a plant-expressible promoter;
 - (ii) a DNA region, which when transcribed yields a ParG inhibitory RNA molecule, said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule comprising a sense nucleotide sequence of at least ~~24 to 100~~ 40 consecutive nucleotides of a coding region of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3 and said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule further comprising an antisense nucleotide sequence of at least ~~24 to 100~~ 40 consecutive nucleotides of said coding region of the complement of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3, wherin said sense and antisense nucleotide sequence are capable of forming a double stranded RNA region comprising said at least ~~24 to 100~~ 40 consecutive nucleotides;
 - (iii) a 3' end region involved in transcription termination and polyadenylation;
- (b) regenerating a population of transgenic plant lines from said transgenic plant cell wherein said chimeric gene is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule; and
- (c) identifying a ~~stress-tolerant~~ plant line within said population of transgenic plant lines, which is tolerant to high light stress conditions.

Claims 17-21 (**Canceled**)